

July 16, 2002

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**PROPOSITION 218 ASSESSMENT BALLOTS - CITY OF PALMDALE
PARK MAINTENANCE AND RECREATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
(FIFTH) (3 VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Support the assessments on County-owned properties within the boundaries of the City of Palmdale Park Maintenance and Recreation Improvement District for the maintenance, improvement and expansion of parks and recreational facilities at an annual cost of \$218, and direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to cast the ballots in support of the assessments for the properties.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the proposed Park Maintenance and Recreation Improvement District will allow for the maintenance, improvement and expansion of parks and recreational facilities by the City within the proposed district.

The assessment district contains the following County-owned parcels: Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 3019-015-904, a Soil and Water Conservation property under the proprietorship of the CAO; and APN's 3009-024-907, 3019-016-901, 902, and 3022-027-908, occupied by the Fire Department's (FD) Fire Stations 37, 131 and 159, respectively.

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IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs that we invest in public infrastructure, in order to strengthen the County's fiscal capacity. Support for the benefit assessments levied against the County properties to facilitate servicing and maintenance of public landscaping fills an identified need and supports this strategy by complying with the Strategic Asset Management Principles (Goal 4, Strategy 4, Objective 2).

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The proposed district's total assessment amount of \$1,474,650 for 2002-03 is to provide for the expansion and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities for 2002-03. The total assessment to be levied on the subject County properties in 2002-03 is \$218. Thereafter, the annual assessments may be adjusted for any increases in the Consumer Price Index, not to exceed three percent, normal Southern California Edison Company energy increases, or by a re-balloting of property owners.

We propose to charge the assessments to the benefiting departments which have proprietorship over the assessed parcels. Based on your Board's approval of other Proposition 218 assessments, this is in keeping with the current policy and practice of charging such assessments to the County departments occupying or deriving use from the assessed property.

The financial cost of paying this increased assessment on the budgets of CAO and FD can be absorbed within the departments' 2002-03 budget appropriations.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

As a result of the passage of Proposition 218, property owned by government agencies, including Los Angeles County, became subject to assessment by various County and non-County assessment districts on July 1, 1997. The County, like other property owners, is able to cast ballots supporting or opposing the assessments and its ballots will be weighted to reflect its proportionate share of the total assessment. Publicly owned properties are not exempt from the assessment unless the parcels receive no special benefit. The agency cannot increase an assessment or impose a new assessment if a majority of the ballots returned oppose the proposed assessment.

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CAO and FD have determined that the services to be financed by the assessment district will be of sufficient benefit to warrant your Board's support. Accordingly, we are recommending that your ballots be completed as supporting the assessments.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of this benefit assessment will help ensure the maintenance and public safety of the public parks and recreational facilities within the assessment district.

CONCLUSION

It is requested that the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, return the adopted stamped Board letter to the CAO, Real Estate Division, 222 South Hill Street, 4th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

DEJ:SNY
CWW:RC:pb

Attachment

c: County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Fire Department

City of Palmdale
in the process of sending
corrected ballot.
Will have in time for filing